

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Reserve

1.913
A2W26

Extension Service - United States Department of Agriculture

LIBRARY
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

APR - 8 1943

WARTIME EXTENSION WORK

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS

— 0 —

Reports this week show a steady drive on the production front --- the job of helping farmers to increase the foods and fibers so vitally needed. Victory Gardens continue as a top-flight subject. One State reports inauguration of sheep-shearing schools, a trend toward job training for farm work that will become increasingly important in the months ahead.

— 0 —

DELAWARE

March 1, 1943

Extension neighborhood volunteers.— Organization practically completed, including breaking down some large neighborhoods into smaller units. Several neighborhood leaders did outstanding work in informing neighbors of Federal income tax service offered by Extension Service.

Victory Gardens.— State conference of all extension workers held to review State plan for Victory Garden campaign. Close cooperation maintained with State Council of Defense Victory Garden organization. Home Demonstration Agents serve as county chairmen to organize program for rural towns. Extension Service provides subject matter for all Victory Garden work and has published circular to go to all farms, with additional copies available for urban gardeners.

Farm labor.— Extension operating as clearing house for all farm labor information, and attempts to correlate activities of all agencies working on this problem. Farm labor data furnished from extension surveys. County agents giving information to local Selective Service boards on increasing number of requests for deferment of farm labor.

Crop production.— Revised fertilizer recommendations prepared in circular form, distributed to fertilizer manufacturers, and made available to farmers through county agent offices. Pasture improvement letter sent to all dairymen and 800 copies of mimeographed circular on Ladino clover furnished to county agents for request distribution.

Summary No. 46
March 27, 1943

379-43

HAWAII
March 6, 1943

Livestock and poultry.- Campaign begun to increase Territorial pork production by 1,500,000 pounds for Oahu in 1943, including 1,500 sows by July 1. County agents have made numerous contacts with hog raisers, to discuss production problems and assist in obtaining repair materials. Emphasized sanitation and proper management of litters and demonstrated building of creeps.

Arrangements made with 14th Naval District for importation of sexed baby chicks by clipper to meet local shortage of breeding stock. Assisted FSCC in arranging with island firm for manufacture of feed called Hawaiian Special Laying Mash. Producers on outlying islands will be able to buy this high quality feed at lower cost than imported mash.

Neighborhood leaders.- Development of neighborhood leaders now chief home demonstration activity. Home economics specialists hold monthly meetings with demonstration agents on Oahu to discuss progress of neighborhood leader program and general problems. Circulars will be prepared monthly for county offices to use in training leaders.

Food and nutrition.- Leader-training demonstrations centered on various uses of powdered eggs. At extension club meeting demonstrations given in making pilchard chowder and using green breadfruit in place of potatoes where potatoes are scarce; uses and preparation of dry and fresh soybeans, since many housewives are raising soybeans in Victory gardens; home-made breads and yeast; preserving locally grown oranges and other native fruit. Homemakers urged to use small amount of brown rice along with white for better nutrition.

Ceiling prices.- With help of neighborhood leaders, 3,000 copies of ceiling price list of fruits and vegetables, compiled from orders issued by Office of Military Governor were distributed to truck farmers on Oahu. Grading inspector attended farmers' meetings to explain more fully how prices affect farmer.

Grading fruits and vegetables.- Method demonstrations of vegetable grading given by county agents for commercial truck crop growers in connection with grades established by Office of Military Governor. Descriptions of all marketable grades of certain fruits and vegetables published in Extension circular.

Molokai truck crop farmers encouraged to grow more head cabbage, carrots, tomatoes, and broccoli, which are especially desired by Army stationed on Island.

Soap making.- Home agent on Oahu demonstrated soap making from fat skimmed off top of cooked garbage. This fat has been thrown away by many hog raisers, who are required to cook all garbage before feeding it to livestock. Soap made is of good quality and can be used for cleaning and laundering work clothes.

Cooperation with military officials.- County farm agents cooperating with military officials in issue of gasoline coupons to farmers; receiving applications to purchase agricultural poisons, to slaughter sows, and for recap and new tires; answering questions on Selective Service; explaining new military orders affecting agriculture.

KANSAS

March 13, 1943

Victory Gardens.- Organization meeting of State Victory Garden Committee held Topeka. Extension, State board of agriculture, State department vocational education represented. Plans made for 1943 program. 200,000 copies Victory Garden window sticker being distributed to farm families by county agents and to city gardeners by OCD. Emphasis will be given to publicity through press and radio. Suggestions on program sent to all counties. Leaflet, "Victory Gardens," prepared and revised list of "Recommended Vegetable Varieties." Mats giving recommended food crops to be sent to all counties for newspaper use. USDA publication, "Victory Gardens," made available all counties. Interest and participation promise to be larger than in 1942.

Commercial vegetables.- Series of meetings held in principal producing areas to develop commercial potato and vegetable acreages. Around 1,000 acres peas will be planted for canning.

Fruit.- Effort devoted to home fruit production program. Nurserymen report unusually early and good demand for planting stock. Pamphlet of home fruit suggestions distributed to all county agents.

Seed.- Use of only certified seed stressed. Farmers urged to treat seed of Irish potatoes, tomatoes, oats, barley, and flax before planting.

Fuel wood and lumber.- Through press, radio, and county agents, promoting use of home-produced fuel wood on farms to conserve transportation facilities. Demonstrations with portable sawmill conducted in 7 counties to teach proper use of native lumber in farm construction. Native lumber produced by nearly 400 sawmills in State can meet many building repair needs of farmers. Also demonstrated improved management practices in farm wood lots, how to get fuel wood from cull trees, and marketing walnut timber for war needs.

Clothing and textiles.- Week of April 5 to be Conservation of Clothing and Home Furnishings Week. Special exhibits and window displays will be shown in cooperation with other agencies, educational groups, and merchants. Plan is to impress on people their job of conserving clothing and furnishings they now have.

Home management.- 192 leaders in 9 counties trained in planning for spending and saving in 1943. Teaching the keeping of simple records stressed.

Production goals.- Prepared and distributed to all counties State publication on 1943 potential production, listing principal problems by counties and giving table for calculating feed requirements for livestock goals. Used to stimulate interest in production of crops in each county which table indicates are necessary to feed livestock numbers included in goals.

Manpower.- Assistance given BAE in selecting counties for spot checks of manpower situation. Cooperating with USES and FSA in setting up procedure for placement of Selective Service referrals of agricultural workers.

4-H Clubs.- Detailed plans made for stimulation of enrollments in food production and conservation projects, particularly Victory Gardens. Plans made for enrolling high school youth in larger cities and selective placement of high school boys on farms this summer.

- 4 -
KENTUCKY
March 15, 1943

Neighborhood leaders.- Campaign-launched in all parts of Kentucky to enlist 500,000 families on farms and in towns and villages to produce three-fourths of their total food requirements this year. Similar effort made last year on smaller scale. Reports from agents indicate campaign is meeting with success. Families meeting requirements will be given certificate of merit signed by Governor and by Dean of college of agriculture and home economics.

Victory Gardens.- With rationing emphasizing importance of home-produced and home-canned food, interest in Victory Gardens is at top pitch; both townspeople and farmers making planting plans. Extension workers emphasizing proper provision for storage to avoid spoilage from freezing or other causes.

Egg production.- Poultry producers cooperating with county agricultural agents report new record in egg production in January. Best 10 flocks made average of almost 22 eggs each per hen; top-ranking flock had average of almost 24 eggs per hen. Many counties claim egg production is 25 percent over last year.

4-H Club safety drive.- 4-H Clubs joining in national campaign to reduce accidents and fires on farms. Plans call for enrollment of all 150,000 members in State.

Dairy production conference.- Approximately 100 representatives of manufacturers of cheese, powdered and condensed milk attended quality-milk conference at college March 2-3 to discuss ways of increasing production and improving quality.

Sheep-shearing schools.- Sheep-shearing school, lasting 2 days, will be held twice at Kentucky College of Agriculture in April and once at Western Kentucky Experiment Substation. Men who have never sheared sheep will be taught art of shearing; those more or less experienced will be instructed to increase efficiency. Emphasis to be placed on shearling lamb program, conducted successfully last year, to provide pelts for aviators' jackets.

Farm labor.- Plans for meeting labor situation discussed by State staff members and county agents in a number of counties. Plans include (1) registration of available labor and farmers needing labor, (2) more complete use of power machinery, (3) development of State and county farm labor committees.

Food for Freedom.- Community programs being built entirely around this program; interest and attendance at planning meetings unusually good. Number of local leaders in subject matter helping with extension program will greatly exceed number in any previous year.

Women in war effort.- Many members of homemakers' clubs carry on Red Cross activities in addition to home economics projects. Some clubs go as groups for day to roll bandages or sew at Red Cross headquarters. Many women taking courses in first aid or learning to be nurses' aides.

4-H castor-bean project.- 4-H Club members in 24 designated counties will grow castor-beans. Limiting factor is seed shortage. Each member is to plant $\frac{1}{4}$ acre or more and observe requirements as to variety, distance from other plantings, etc.

- 5 -

LOUISIANA
March 1, 1943

Victory Gardens.- Goal of 300,000 home gardens set for State this spring. Horticultural department of State university filled 23,515 requests for "pinches" of seed for Victory Gardens. These included seed of collards, okra, cabbage, tomatoes, onions, developed and bred at experiment station for Louisiana soils. Other seeds distributed: Sweet garden peas, garlic, cauliflower, wax beans.

Dairying.- More than 500 dairy calves have been fed by 4-H Club members to demonstrate proper production practices for volume and quality. Most of calves will be shown at annual livestock show on university campus in April, first time dairy cattle have had place. Dairymen and breeders attended dairying schools in various parts of state to effect cooperation in achieving production goals. During month, 225 high-grade Jersey cattle brought into State to improve dairy herds of south Louisiana.

Poultry.- Instruction for amateurs in poultry raising conducted through community gatherings and by radio. Series of six broadcasts, "Poultry School of the Air," given over Station WWL, New Orleans, and similar series, "Timely Poultry Topics," over Station KWKH, Shreveport. Broadcasts included instruction in building home-made lamp brooders. Reports to extension poultryman of L.S.U., originator of home-made lamp brooder, indicate 125,000 new brooders being used this spring all over South. Requests for plans and specifications have come from Canal Zone, Colombia, and Mexico. State Civilian Defense Council cooperating with junior poultry clubs in "Poultry for Victory" program by urging civic service organizations to lend funds to boys and girls. Sixty U. S. approved hatcheries in State report facilities engaged to capacity for spring production.

Roll Call.- Rural women of the 64 parishes of Louisiana responded to roll call for all-out effort in food production. Home demonstration agents in all parishes directed movement and received virtually 100 percent cooperation from newspapers, radio stations, and community leaders in bringing message before rural women. Incidental to program, women being taught proper nutritional practices and necessity for home production to provide wholesome balanced meals. Home demonstration club women in various parts of State learning to use meat substitutes; emphasis on use of peas, beans, cheese, eggs.

Beef production.- Special effort made to produce higher grade beef cattle to meet demand for meat products. 266 head of registered Brahma cattle imported from Texas to be used for breeding in central Louisiana. Emphasis also given to better pastures.

1007
6.57

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007

1007